



U.S. Air Force

DEP News

RAP offers chance to work in hometown

Most of you would agree that when you first entered your recruiter's office to learn about Air Force jobs, you probably held a certain degree of skepticism. After all, it's the recruiter's job to

convince you that the Air Force is your best choice.

Well, that's partly true. While your recruiter's role is to ensure you qualify, you ultimately based your decision to join on careful consideration and likely discussing it with several people. For a lot of you, speaking with airmen participating in the Recruiter Assistance Program probably helped ease doubts about joining.

You may be able to provide that same assurance to others by returning home as a RAPPER. The RAP brings Air Force technical training graduates back to their hometowns to work with their

recruiters for up to 12 days before heading to their first duty assignments.

Although RAPPERS must provide their own transportation to their hometowns and their own living arrangements during the program, the days spent working in the recruiter's

office are nonchargeable leave. Duty days are spent assisting the recruiter, and evenings are free to spend with family and friends.

by Staff Sgt. Marti Ribeiro



Participants in the Recruiter Assistance Program work for recruiters and share their Air Force experiences with others.

RAP duties prove valuable to recruiter

So you want to take advantage of the Recruiter Assistance Program and its benefit of returning home, but you're not quite sure what you'll be doing.

The most valuable contributions of RAP duty are your personal testimonials, assistance in school visits and performance of other recruiting-related tasks. As some of the Air Force's newest airmen, you can make unique contributions to the recruiting mission.

The following are some duties in which your recruiter may ask for your assistance.

At the office

- Develop prospecting lists using a high school yearbook. Prospecting lists include those individuals who meet general Air Force qualifications.
- Conduct "light" phone prospect-

ing. Begin with people you're comfortable with such as your friends and former classmates.

■ Develop a brief summary of your basic training and technical training experiences. Include what a typical day was like, what to expect, what you liked best, and what you wish you would have known beforehand. You can use this information at gatherings such as Delayed Entry Program commander's calls.

■ Participate in DEP commander's calls by meeting with upcoming shippers and answering questions about basic training and technical training.

Back to school

- Conduct visits to area high schools and colleges with your recruiter.
- Obtain school lists for high

When to get started

To participate, submit AETC Form 1327, *Application for Participation in the Recruiter Assistance Program*, to the recruiting squadron program monitor at least four weeks before graduation from technical training.

It's important that you notify the recruiting squadron RAP monitor if your graduation date changes as it affects your RAP dates.



Airmen returning to their hometowns as part of the Recruiter Assistance Program perform a variety of duties to include gathering leads.

school seniors and juniors.

- Make limited classroom presentations, primarily answering questions other students may have about the Air Force.

- Share your experiences with your former counselors and teachers. This builds support for Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, or ASVAB, testing.

- Attend center of influence events for educators and students to answer their questions.

- Help man lunchroom displays and attend career day activities.

- Speak to students who operate school radio or television talk shows, or tell the school newspaper staff about your job.

In the zone

- Assist with special events involving the setup of the mini-jet or Raptor SUV.

- Participate in parades.

- Conduct local news interviews, such as a hometown news release or military column.

- Participate in base tours with prospective applicants.

Approving RAP duty

Most airmen applying for Recruiter Assistance Program duty are excited to return to their hometowns for a chance to share new experiences with others. However, they must keep in mind that applying for RAP doesn't necessarily guarantee approval.

The RAP monitor, who is located at the recruiting squadron, evaluates each request based on recruiters' need for assistance during the requested time period. Some applicants are approved for less than the full 12 days; and sometimes for dates different from what they requested. This is typically due to requirements and scheduling constraints of recruiters.

In addition, becoming a candidate for RAP duty takes more than completing the proper paperwork. Many airmen returning to their hometowns for RAP duty are often those who have made the most contributions while in the Delayed Entry Program.

After reviewing an application for RAP, the monitor's next step is to contact the recruiter for a recommendation of approval or disapproval.

Recruiters generally recommend approval unless they'll be unavailable during the time the airman will be in the area or if they exceed the target of two participants per month or one participant at a time.

Based on the recommendation of the recruiter, the RAP monitor coordinates the request with the recruiting squadron commander, who approves or disapproves the application. Once the approval process is completed, the applicant is notified within seven work days.

Following approval, airmen will receive the completed AETC Form 1327, *Application for Participation in the Recruiter Assistance Program*. The completed form does not serve as a confirmation of RAP duty.

Airmen approved for RAP duty should also receive a commander's verification letter from the recruiting squadron. A signed, fax copy will be sent to the applicant's unit representative.

If approved for RAP, airmen should contact the recruiter they will work with immediately when they arrive home on leave. The recruiter will verify dates of participation, make sure airmen can meet their reporting or port call dates, specify when and where to report for duty and describe the types of activities they'll perform.

U.S. Air Force's *Future Force*

Jay Lelonek

Hometown: Cicero, N.Y.

Date of Birth: April 4, 1986

Recruiter: Master Sgt. Norm McGuire

High school name and mascot:
Cicero-North Syracuse High School
Northstars

Date departing for BMT: Aug. 17

Future Air Force job: Security
forces

**Where do you see yourself in 10
years?** Still in the Air Force

Why the Air Force? Education and
job opportunities

Hobbies: Playing football, hockey,
golf and baseball

Favorite CD: "Busted Stuff" by
Dave Matthews

Favorite video game: Madden 2004

Favorite magazine: ESPN The Magazine

Last book read: Band of Brothers

Favorite TV program: "JAG"

Hottest car: 1969 Chevelle

What movie have you seen more than five times? "Saving Private Ryan"

by Staff Sgt. Carissa Lee



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by Staff Sgt. Aaron D. Allmon II



Quick Stats

F-117A Nighthawk

Primary Function: Fighter and attack

Contractor: Lockheed Aeronautical Systems Co.

Power: Two General Electric F404 non-afterburning engines

Length: 63 feet, 9 inches

Height: 12 feet, 9.5 inches

Weight: 52,500 pounds

Wingspan: 43 feet, 4 inches

Speed: High subsonic

Range: Unlimited with air refueling

Armament: Internal weapons carriage

Unit Cost: \$45 million

Crew: One

Date Deployed: 1982

Inventory: Active force, 55; ANG, 0; Reserve, 0

by Staff Sgt. Vince Parker



Stealth capability allows Nighthawk to exploit enemy

The F-117A Nighthawk is the world's first operational aircraft designed to exploit low-observable stealth technology. This precision-strike aircraft penetrates high-threat airspace and uses laser-guided weapons against critical targets.

Responsible for helping the



The unique design of the single-seat F-117A provides exceptional combat capabilities. The fighter can employ a variety of weapons and is equipped with sophisticated navigation and attack systems.

Nighthawk keep its combat edge over enemy forces is Airman 1st Class Scott Mitchell, an assistant dedicated crew chief for the 49th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M.

The Indianapolis native is responsible for all aspects of maintenance to the fighter as well as performing launch and recovery of aircraft.

“I enjoy the opportunity to work on one of the most technologically advanced weapons the military has to offer,” Airman Mitchell said.

The F-117A can employ a variety of weapons and is equipped with sophisticated navigation and attack systems integrated into a digital avionics suite that increases mission effectiveness and reduces the pilot workload.

Citing teamwork as critical to his job, the crew chief also learned in the short 12 months since he enlisted that it also takes dedication to core values to carry out his mission.

“Integrity is important due to the fact that you have someone’s life in your hands. Sometimes the hours are long and hard, but if you want satisfaction in a way you never experienced, then this is the job for you,” he said.

“[When] you launch your jet with two 2,500-pound bombs and the bays come back empty, you know you were the one who made that happen. I would recommend this career field to anyone who loves hands-on work and likes getting dirty.”



courtesy photo

The 325th Fighter Wing at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., provides instruction to all new F-15 crew chiefs on their way to F-15 combat units around the world.

Training on Target

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.

Tyndall Air Force Base is located 12 miles east of Panama City, Fla., and is home to more than 3,000 Air Force members.

The 325th Fighter Wing at Tyndall trains F-15 pilots, crew chiefs, controllers and support personnel for worldwide assignment to combat air superiority units.

On Oct. 25, 2002, the wing activated the 43rd Fighter Squadron, the Air Force's first F/A-22 Raptor unit. The wing began F/A-22 pilot and maintainer training with the arrival of the first operational F/A-22 Raptor in September 2003.

Learn more about Tyndall at www.tyndall.af.mil.

Panama City Profile



Location: NW Florida
Population: 36,417
Avg. High Temps: 62-89
Avg. Low Temps: 39-71
Avg. Annual Rainfall:
64.76 inches